HERITAGE NEWS





SANDSTONE ESTATES 2021 Q 3





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The Class NG 10 *was used for quite a few occasions during the last couple of months, surely one of the favourites amongst everyone. Beautifully restored and mechanically sound and suitable to haul longer trains than the same of her size.*

On this occasion the Baldwin was used to entertain the Free State Tourism team on a nostalgic train ride to the foothills of the Maluti Mountains.



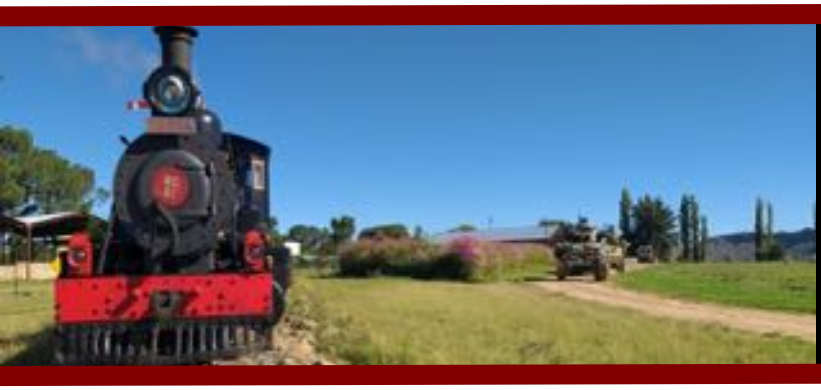


The purpose of this event was to prove that Tourism can be safely done during the Covid 19 pandemic and this is very important to keep tourism alive.

Safety first always !



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The Class NG 10 *second run was for a private function organized by Mr .Mole. The Military vehicles and the Ox wagon were part of the experience.*

The train went all the way to Grootdraai and Mooihoek.

The Cosmos was in bloom and children were playing in the cosmos field with the majestic Maluti Mountains in the backdrop.





Image above: Mr. Mole on the Baldwin footplate, always great to have him with us.

We returned just before lunch and the Baldwin was put to bed, another day, another experience not easily to be forgotten.



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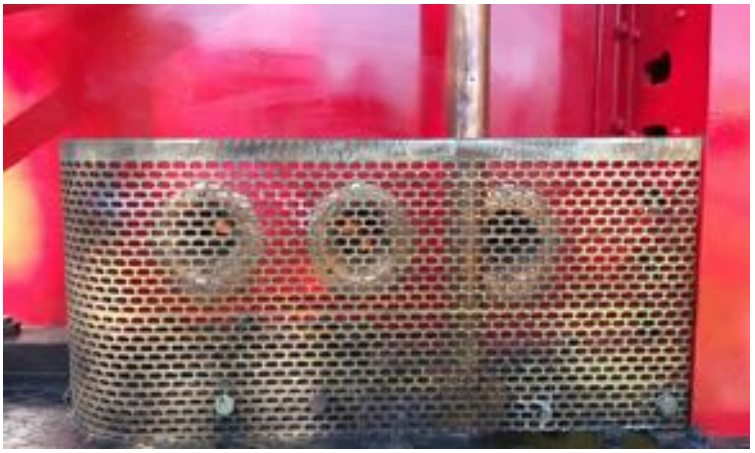


The Class NG 16 A number 155.

The restoration of the locomotive is almost complete and if all goes well we will do a light locomotive trial test within the next week.

The locomotive boiler was steam tested last week and everything looks well and in order. Restorations are done as per the code of practice laid down by the former South African Railways and is very important





We shunted her out last Friday for a quick photo session and then lit her up for the steam test. She steamed with a candle, it took only 12 shovels of coal to get her going and she did not want to stop steaming. It was a very pleasant experience to listen to her coming to life after 21 years.

We still have a few things to attend to before we finally can fully test her, light engine first and later the load test.



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The Class NG 16 A number 155, 141.

6 May 2008 was more that just a normal day, no one ever knew how important it was to rescue number 141 to enable us to rebuild no 155 with the modified engine units. At that time 155's original modified engine units were still there but the owner rather decided to sell it to the scrap metals merchants, preservationists?





Phil Mortimer came to the rescue of number 141 not aware that it would be the key to the restoration of 155 today.

The images illustrate the horrific, hopeless circumstances under which these locomotive were saved years ago.

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The CAT 621:

Sandstone Estates owns two Cat 621's and the first one came in for cosmetic restoration. These giant earthmoving machines have done quite a huge amount of work at Sandstone Estates during the developing phases..





Deon Muller is restoring a vintage Oliver White tractor at his workshop. He found that the engine was beyond feasible repair and another engine was source to replace the old one.

Janki Palmer and David will do the cosmetic restoration on the Oliver tractor.



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David Shepherd with his 15F, Avril

David Shepherd, the famous wildlife artist owned a few locomotives, 15F number 3052. British Class 9F the Black Prince and a class 4MT but sadly passed away on the 19th of September 2017 at the age of 86 years.

Today we reflect on to the day David was reunited with his 15F in Ficksburg Station when Sandstone Estates hosted a special event and Avril ran 3 trips to Kommandonek on that day.





It was a nostalgic day indeed and a day to remember as David's face was filled with tears when he saw his engine in steam again.

Photos: All credit to Gavin Boy.

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The Sandstone Heritage Trust is a centre of excellence in the global preservation movement.



